

Six Mile Post

The Student Voice

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Floyd College - Rome, Georgia

February 22, 2000

— News Briefs —

■ Blood drive successful

The blood drive that was held on Jan. 25 was a big success, according to Gayle Bentley, secretary in the Office of Student Life. Although the goal of 30 pints of blood wasn't reached, there were 22 pints given, which beat the record of last year's 17 pints. There was participation among students, faculty, and staff.

After the blood drive, there was a drawing of names of those that participated. Ten names were drawn and these people won t-shirts.

Many don't realize that there is a low percentage of blood given in the state of Georgia, so all that are capable of giving are greatly encouraged to do so.

Another blood drive will be held on April 26 in the Lakeview Building. If you didn't have a chance to give blood this past time or you would like to do so again, then you have another opportunity.

■ Candidate sessions cancelled

The spring semester Presidential Candidate/Organization Forums planned for the North Metro Campus have been cancelled due to a lack of interest.

Last semester representatives of the presidential candidates held sessions at the North Metro Campus to discuss and answer questions students might have about the presidential race.

The sessions will resume this summer and fall, but only if more people sign up for the "Presidents of the United States" classes at the North Metro campus (POLS 2501 and IDIS 1100 or 1101).

"I believe that Floyd College could have seen one of the national candidates come to our campus for the March Georgia Presidential Primary if a sufficient number of students had signed up for the course in the Spring Semester," said Ken Spruce, associate professor of political science, who teaches the courses.

■ ASF sign-up deadline coming

The deadline to sign up for the annual weekend trip to the Alabama Shakespeare Festival (ASF) in Montgomery, Ala. is Feb. 29.

The trip is scheduled for April 8-9 and features professional performances of *King Lear* and *The Comedy of Errors*, as well as a backstage tour of ASF's multi-million dollar complex.

The trip costs range from \$60 to \$74 per person. A \$35 deposit must be paid in the Office of Student Life or at a branch campus office to reserve a spot for the trip. The balance of the trip fee is due March 20.

The sign-up is first come, first serve.

All English teachers and a number of other teachers are offering extra credit to students who take part in the trip.

For more information call the Office of Student Life (706-295-6363) or Kristie Kemper, trip coordinator (706-295-6300) or see the ASF trip web page by going to the Floyd College homepage and clicking on Student Union and Student Life and ASF trip.

Primaries in the hands of the voter

By Joey Davidson
Assistant Editor

On March 7 Georgia will hold its primary election for presidential preference. This election is for the purpose of electing the delegates that will go to each

party's national convention to select a nominee.

Before the 1970s the way to a party's presidential nomination was through the state party conventions. Since then things have changed. With the strengthening of the Direct Primary Elections, an individual's vote means more than ever.

The process of electing the president is basically the same as far as being elected by the Electoral College. However, how the delegates get there is the biggest change. Under the state party system, the choice for party nominee was usually in the hands of powerful party leaders because they were the ones who would choose the delegates for the national convention. This is whom the candidates would cater to.

What the primaries mean is that the power to elect delegates is now in the hand of the voter. According to Dr. Melvin Perry, associate professor of political science, "Voters today have more input than ever into the presidential election." Perry explains that, "When you vote in the primary election you are voting for a list of delegates who have pledged to the candidate being voted upon."

This power has turned the political process into an advantageous one for today's voter. "Today most voters are candidate centered, instead of party centered," Perry said. What this translates into is a candidate who must now understand the issues and concerns of the voters, if he/she wants to be elected.

The fact that the candidates are more in tune than ever to the voters have people like Floyd College student Rebecca Mickley saying that she will definitely be voting in the upcoming primary election. "It is the responsibility of each person to let their voice be heard," says Mickley.

This responsibility is also keenly felt by people like Jenni Wright, also a student at Floyd College, who says, "If everyone did not vote because they felt that one vote would not make a difference, then it would not have the chance to make a difference." This feeling is the embodiment of Georgia's primary, that one vote can make a difference.

However, taking advantage of this

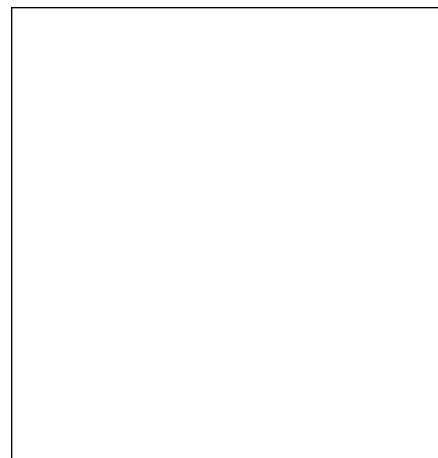


Photo by Melissa Desrosier

Dr. Melvin Perry

newfound power does require some effort. In a word, voting. Historically, voter turnout is usually low in the primary elections. And, as is the nature of politics, if people do not vote, then the candidate does not know, and probably does not care, what they are concerned about.

So, even if the reason for voting is as simple as that of fellow student Meg Martin, it still counts. Martin said she is going to the polls because she always has.

History shows, however, that there will be many that do not vote. In explaining why she probably would not make it to the polls Jane Everett, another FC student, said, "I just don't have the time." Statistics will show that she is not alone.

The delegates elected in the primary will go to their respective party's national conventions to name its nominee. Georgia's democrats will send 77 out of the total of 4337 delegates that will be at the Democratic National Convention (DNC). The Georgia republicans will send 54 of the 2066 delegates at the Republican National Convention (RNC).

The RNC will be held in Philadelphia, Penn., on July 31 through Aug. 3 this year. And the DNC is in Los Angeles, Calif., on Aug. 14 through Aug. 17. For more information on the party and/or the candidates, visit their web sites. The RNC site is located at <http://rnc.org>, and the DNC address is <http://www.democrats.org>.

Photo by Heather Koon
The Confederate Emblem has become an issue in this year's presidential campaign. See "Georgia Flag" page 2 and 4 for opinions on the controversy surrounding the state flag.

Registering to vote is no trouble at all

By Sara Atkison
Staff writer

Upon reaching the age of 18, it is not very likely that the first thing an aspiring adult would want to do is register to vote. Proving one's adulthood and matu-

rity might involve getting some sort of piercing or tattoo, buying lottery tickets or buying tobacco. This is all done for the sole purpose of making a memorable entrance into adulthood.

Becoming a registered voter does not have to mean spending a great deal of

quality time at the Election Office, or filling out paperwork. Voter registration can be done at the Floyd County Election Office, on the Web, or at the public library and the state patrol office.

(Continued on page 9)

News/Features

The Georgia flag: A symbol of slavery or a historical marker?

By W. Jason Yates
Staff Writer

The Georgia state flag. Controversy or patriotic symbol?

Some may say it's the Confederate Battle Flag (CBF), but others say it's just a political flag. Many people say the flag MUST go, but does it really have to? The true history of the flag and war say no.

The state flag really isn't a symbol of slavery at all. A book at the Floyd College Library called *Flags Of The World* by David Eggenberger says, "The flag [of the Confederacy] simply identified the South from the North, not just slavery."

The Confederate Battle Flag is basically a St. Andrew's Cross. St. Andrew was crucified sideways, so that's why it appears as an X. The reason the Confederacy chose this type of cross is because St. Andrew was a Scottish-Irish man, and the South was rich in Scottish-Irish heritage.

The 13 stars on the CBF represent the 11 states that seceded from the Union and Kentucky and Missouri. The latter two of these had governments in exile and tried to remain neutral. Even so, the South decided to honor them

on their flag. The reason the flag was red, white and blue was because General Beauregard decided to do a blue field with a red St. Andrew's Cross. Since all the Union flags were mainly blue, it was decided the Confederate flag would be the opposite. That explains why it is a red field with a blue cross and white stars.

When the South seceded from the Union in 1861, they adopted the Stars and Bars flag. At the Battle of First Manassas (also known as Bull Run) in July of 1861, the troops said the Stars and Bars looked too similar to the Union's flag, especially when the wind wasn't blowing. Porcher Mills, a South Carolinian, who was a member of the Confederate Congress Committee, recommended that the flag be changed to what is now called the Confederate Battle flag.

The Veterans of the Confederacy have been honored at least three times in state flags. In 1877, Georgia honored them with a partial Stars and Bars flag. In 1893, Mississippi put the CBF on their state flag to honor their veterans and the major battles that were fought in their state.

The last flag honor, in 1956, was part of the 1956 Georgia

Highway Act and changed the Georgia flag once again. Georgia legislators presented this Highway Act due to the upcoming centennial (1961) of the Civil War's beginning. They wanted more historical markers because of this anniversary.

The current flag's history goes back to 1923. In Millen, Ga., at a reunion of Confederate veterans, a little kid was listening to all the war stories the veterans were telling him. This little kid was John Sammons Bell, a black, who later served as a Justice on the Georgia Court of Appeals. He wanted to honor them by putting the battle flag they fought under on the flag they now lived under. Bell worked all his life to get the flag changed. His life's work was honored by the 1956 Highway Act.

Some say slavery was the whole reason behind the Civil War. It's not the reason the battle was fought at all. This war was fought because the North had placed tariffs and an income tax on the South because they were so successful. South Carolinian Congressman Morrill started this income tax bill between 1861-65. This was originally used to increase the size of the Union Army.

By 1861 (because of the Law

of 1807 that says any slaves born in 1808 or after were born free) slavery was already dying down. This was caused by the Industrial Revolution. Even the Confederates say in their Constitution in Article 1, Sections 1 and 2 that the African Slave Trade would not be tolerated in the South. From that point on, no more slaves would be allowed in the South. Only the slaves they had that were still alive would be made to serve.

The Civil War was fought because the Confederacy was afraid that the Union was trying to change their ways of living. They wanted to control the South's highly successful farming industry and also to bring more unity between the North and South. Tariffs and the income tax were placed on the South because of this. The South didn't approve so the war was started for this reason and this reason only.

The South had larger states than the North; therefore, more farmland must be covered in the same amount of time. The only way for Southern farmers to get this work done was to use slaves. Slavery wasn't even a small issue of the war.

Many people say that the whites started slavery. History

shows otherwise. Around 1650 in Virginia, one black man, John Casor, was an indentured servant of another black man, Anthony Johnson. Casor tried in anyway he could to get out of being a servant to Johnson. Johnson then took Casor to court and after all the evidence had been presented, the judge ruled in favor of Johnson. The sentence was that Casor would then serve as Johnson's slave for the rest of his life. Because of this ruling, slavery was legalized in the United States, at least until the 13th Amendment was passed.

When asked what he thought about the flag, John Butler, a former Floyd and Bartow elementary school teacher said, "Leave it alone. If we changed it, it would only be the tip of the iceberg. Then everyone would have to change the names of roads, parks, monuments and then it would lead to...desecration of Confederate graveyards."

Jamie Cook, 20, a nursing student at Floyd College, said "It's not the flag that we should be concerned about; it's what we are teaching our future generation of what the flag represented and the outcome and freedom that we have today."

Death of Floyd College student in January still remains unsolved

By Matt Bowers
Staff Reporter

Almost a month after the fact, there still seems to be no new development in the investigation into the death of Floyd College student Isaac Dawkins.

Dawkins, 20 years old from Armurchee, was traveling north on Highway 27 about an eighth of a mile past the Coca-Cola plant at approximately 7:20 p.m. on Jan. 11, when he was shot in the back of the head through the rear window of his truck. His truck then veered across the lane and the median into the southbound lane. Twenty-seven hours later Dawkins died of complications from the gunshot wound and injuries from the car crash.

Dawkins had transferred to Floyd College from Shorter in the Fall 1998 Semester and attended Floyd during the Spring 1999 and Spring 2000 semesters. Dawkins was working on a major in occupational therapy and was planning on going into the medical field.

According to Dr. Penny Wills, vice president of student development, Dawkins had been a good

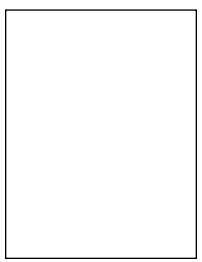
student and was well liked. Wills also stated that the college has fully cooperated with the police investigating the case and has given them any information and records that could help.

According to Detective Jim Moser, the detective in charge of the case, "There have been a lot of rumor leads, and we have tried to exhaust all of them." Moser also stated that there are "no prime suspects" and that the department had "nothing concrete yet."

On the Thursdays following the incident Moser spoke to the class that Dawkins had been leaving the night of Jan. 11, but nothing has yet come out of that meeting.

There is currently a reward of over \$10,000 for any information resulting in the arrest and consequent conviction of the person or persons responsible for the death of Isaac Dawkins.

If you or anyone you know has any information about the case, you can call Detective Moser at 706-238-5127, or Lt. Debbie Burnett at 706-238-5122, or you can call the Rome Police Department at 706-238-5111.



Isaac Dawkins

The family of Isaac Dawkins wishes to thank the entire Floyd College community for the flowers, cards, prayers and overall support they have received during the past several weeks.

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News

Club News

BAS

Floyd College's Black Awareness Society members and guests gathered Feb. 7 to participate in a Minority Staff and Student Luncheon. Each student and faculty member brought a dish. The menu included ham, green beans, sweet potato pie, and more! The luncheon gave students and staff members the opportunity to relax and share a few laughs. One BAS member stated, "All it takes is a little soul food to bring people together."

Presently, BAS members are looking forward to visiting the Georgia State Campus, touring V-103 studios, and taking a trip to the King Center of Atlanta, Georgia.

BSU

The Baptist Student Union (BSU) meets every Thursday morning at 11 a.m. in W-200 for bible study and fellowship. The BSU is led by campus minister, Rev. Frank Murphy. BSU members are looking forward to Spring Conference 2000, which takes place the last weekend in February. Right now, members are studying the Sermon On The Mount in the book of Matthew. BSU accepts people of all faiths at their meetings. For more information, contact Jason Yates at wyate00@mail.fc.peachnet.edu.

FANS

The next FANS meeting will be held Feb. 28, from 10:45 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Spring semester activities will be discussed. Members' attendance is encouraged and appreciated.

For more information contact FANS president, Sarah Pascoe: spasc00@mail.fc.peachnet.edu

HPER

The HPER club (Health, Physical Education and Recreation Club) will sponsor a "Shoot-out" on April 12 at 12:30 p.m. With a \$1 per attempt fee, students can compete in a three-point shot contest, slam dunk contest, half-court shot competition or a free throw competition.

It is not required that people be HPER club members to participate in any of these activities, but for those who are interested in joining the club there are many more fundraising and club opportunities to get involved with. For example, HPER will be sponsoring the concession stand at the upcoming Class-A state tournament Feb. 24-26. Club membership is open to those majoring in

health, physical education or recreation or just anyone with a general interest in any of these activities. Contact Bridgette Stewart in the HPER office (706-295-6353) for more information.

PSI BETA

The Floyd College chapter of Psi Beta honor society held their Induction Ceremony Sunday, Feb. 6. The Psi Beta members and Dr. Alberta Johnson, Psi Beta adviser, conducted the ceremony. Members are now planning school and community events for this semester.

Psi Beta, an affiliate of the American Psychological Society and the American Psychological Association, is the national honor society in psychology for community and junior colleges.

There is more information on the Psi Beta bulletin board in the Walraven Building and in the college's library.

PTK

Phi Theta Kappa's membership drive will conclude with an induction ceremony to be held Feb. 25 in the Tower View Dining Room. Family, friends and all PTK members are invited to attend.

A spaghetti supper is currently being planned for the month of March.

PTK is also participating in the America Reads Book Drive. All books collected will be donated to local shelters serving abused women and children as well as to various libraries. Organizers hope to have collected 2000 books by April 14.

For more information on upcoming events, contact Laura Bridges at 295-6300.

SMP

The first online only issue of the *Six Mile Post* was a success. The staff this semester has almost doubled compared to the last semester's staff. The 1999 Georgia Press Association Better Newspaper Contest winner results are in. The *Six Mile Post* paper and staff members won many first, second and third place awards in the contest. The awards will be picked up April 15 at the rescheduled Press Institute in Macon.

SGA

On Saturday, March 25, the University of Georgia is hosting its fourth annual Spring Leaders Conference. The event is open to all student leaders or students interested in student leadership.

The theme of the conference will be Connecting Today's Leaders With Tomorrow's Future. Former governor Zell Miller will

be speaking. Through sharing ideas with many other student leaders and developing leadership skills, both the individual and the organization he or she represents will benefit.

A \$25 fee is due by March 6 to reserve a spot. Hotel reservations can be made if necessary. For more information on registration, contact the Office of Student Life at

(706) 295-6363.

ORK

Calling all artists, writers, and other predominantly right-brained individuals: the *Old Red Kimono* needs your work. Anything from artwork to short stories to poetry will be accepted. Students are encouraged to submit their works; however, adviser Jeff

Mack suggests shying away from sentimentality. "We're not looking for all the mushy 'I love you, you love me' stuff," said Mack.

To have work considered for publication, submit it to the *Old Red Kimono* mailbox, located in the Social-Cultural Studies Office by March 1. Be sure to identify yourself as a student and include your name and address.

Editorials

Is Ga flag heritage or racism?

In 1956 the Georgia General Assembly passed Senate Bill 98. It was signed into law on Feb. 13, 1956, and became effective that July 1. This is the bill that changed the state flag to include the Battle Flag of the Confederacy.

There is the misconception among some that Georgia has 'proudly' flown the current flag since the Civil War. This explains why it may be construed that to change it is to tamper with a long, proud history. But the flag's history is not so long, nor so proud.

In World War I (1914-1918) black soldiers were segregated from the white ones. However, in World War II (1939-1945) all branches of the armed services began a move toward the equal treatment of blacks and there was resistance to integration. But, in 1948, President Harry Truman ordered the final desegregation of the armed forces. Strike one against the 'old order'.

In 1954, in *Brown vs. Board of Education*, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that racially segregated education was unconstitutional. This meant that no public school system could deny a child a proper education, regardless of the color of their skin. Strike two.

Then, in 1955, Rosa Parks, a black resident of Montgomery, Alabama, was arrested for not surrendering her seat on a city bus to a white person. The arrest of Parks led to demonstrations and a boycott of Montgomery's bus system by its black patrons. This led to the federal court order forcing Montgomery's buses to desegregate. Strike three.

But the 'old order' would not give up so easily. Senate Bill 98 manifested this in Georgia. In 1956, speaking on changing the flag, State Rep. Denmark Groover (D-Macon), said, "We in Georgia intend to uphold what we stood for, will stand for, and will fight for."

It is very clear what Georgia stood for in 1956; the record speaks for itself. The question remains however, "What does Georgia stand for in 2000?" Is it still 'patriotic' to deny a person's constitutional, not to mention human right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness because of skin color?

This is what the flag issue is about, not the flag itself. A flag is no more than a piece of cloth. It represents only what the people that uphold it stand for. The current flag was raised in a bitter time and by a bitter people who made it clear why it was raised. And the fact that it yet flies can only mean that the people of Georgia are comfortable with that.

Are you comfortable with that?

Floyd College: for the technological advanced only

Editor's Box Laura Gosnold Editor



When I came to Floyd last semester, I was so hyped up about having my own personal 10 pound laptop to lug around the campus every day. As soon as I received it, I changed all the fonts and icon pictures, downloaded hilarious wav files and adorned the screen with smiley faces, not to mention I installed Yahoo instant messenger and AOL.

Little did I know that in order to pass my classes, I had to become very user friendly with this machine. And that doesn't mean learning how to Instant Message my buddies across the room during an extremely boring class.

I'm a computer science major, so what I'm about to say basically contradicts what I should already know about computers, but I'd much rather learn via pencil and paper than through a laptop that takes 20 minutes to boot up, and did I mention that it weighs 10 pounds... and you have to carry it to all your classes that are spread out quite a distance? Just thought I would emphasize that a bit.

Last semester when I sat down

in my science class, I was told that I needed to check the web site on a regular basis for assignments. The directions and due dates would be included. Great, not only do I have to pay \$100 for a paperback textbook, but now I am expected to receive and submit all of my work online. Why can't I write it on my Five Star like normal people?

Science didn't turn out to be so bad, and I only had a couple of assignments that were web dependent. But, just as I was heading for the home stretch after mid terms, my English teacher introduced me to Connect.net. Those of us who have had English 1101 and 1102 are very familiar with this all too evil program.

Teachers send the essay assignment over the Web, and the students are expected to type the entire essay over this program. Not only that, but you have to attempt to send it before accidentally brushing your thumb across the mouse pad and deleting 60 minutes of great literature.

And, if your computer decides to malfunction five minutes before

There's nothing that I can scratch up that you probably don't already know, and even if I could, you'd be better off not paying attention to me because, God knows, I'm full of crap.

That's the annoying thing about writing. Often, I don't even have an opinion, but for the sake of this column, I have to invent some bullcrap and rally behind it—like I actually care. Maybe you're familiar with this, from writing essays. Not to say I always have fake opinions of course but I've done it enough to be sick of it.

You see, I've been locked in the house all weekend, due to "Winter Storm 2000." I've watched news coverage of a dump truck spinning around on an icy road so many times that I'm about to tear out my eyeballs. I just don't have the energy to blow out my regular hot air. So screw it. This time, I'm without an issue.

Right now, I'm sitting in a chair, watching *The X-Files* and hammering away on this cantankerous laptop. The whole time I've been complaining, I've watched a green, bloodthirsty creature run

the assignment has to be posted, then you're screwed.

As if things couldn't become even worse for me, Floyd decides to change Computer Programming I to a web based course. Ok, I can handle the science stuff. I can even handle Connect, but there is no way I can take an entire course over the Internet and get the same grade that I could if the class were meeting several times a week!

Is there any way possible that Floyd could limit the technology just a teensy bit?

My point is simple. Perhaps these laptops are more of a distraction than intended. I mean, I'm taking English to learn how to write (well, actually because I have to), not work a program that is next to impossible. And those who have to have their laptops booted during class might find it a bit tempting to send a few shout outs to their pals who are also logged onto the Internet. Not that I would ever do such a thing.

Don't get me wrong. Computers are a wonderful thing. But it wouldn't be such a bad idea to work a pencil and paper into the curriculum—maybe let students choose whether or not they want to take a class required for their major over the Web. My fingers are crossed for that Computer Programming II class.

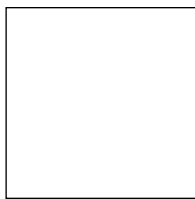
around and mutilate people. It's a lot of fun and Gillian Anderson's a real cutie, too!

Oh well. Here's the only cheesy nugget of advice I can offer you this issue: I hope you feel better than I do. And if life's tedious nonsense has you down, try the thing with GI Joes and a softball.

Bye.

The Land Of Odd

By Matthew Curry



My cousin has an interesting way of dealing with stress. He likes to line up several GI Joe figures in a tub (without water) and pretend they're real people, living and thriving in their own miniature community. He then stands over the tub, closes his eyes and hurls down a softball with all his might. Then he looks down to see which of the plastic soldiers he's obliterated, leans down, and says, "Ha ha! You're *dead!*" He seems to get a lot of enjoyment out of this.

Normally, at this point, I'd come up with some cute, silly way of connecting this anecdote with a broader, more philosophical idea, then twist it into a perky little piece of advice. But I'm not in the mood for that garbage now.

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Six Mile Post The Student Voice

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Spring Break!!

March 6-12

Have fun and be careful wherever your adventures may take you.

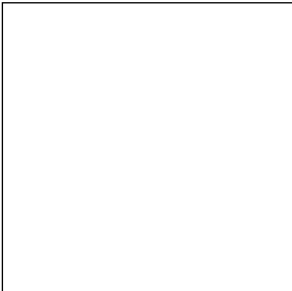


Features

Student Poll

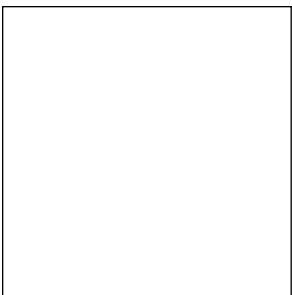
Be sure to log on to the *Six Mile Post* website at www.fc.peachnet.edu/sixmilepost/Main2.html, and tell us who you plan to vote for in the Georgia Primary.

Will you be voting in the Georgia Primary?



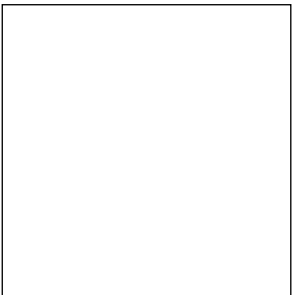
Kenny Durham

"Primary? Election? What?"



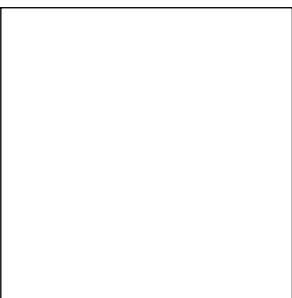
Donna Puckett

"No, I didn't register to vote."



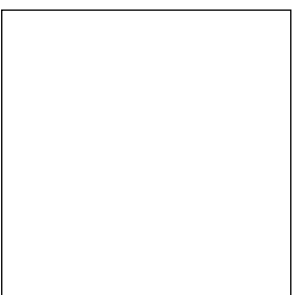
Matthew Hutchins

"I probably will because I have some strong opinions concerning the candidates. I plan to vote for George W. Bush because of his support for the education voucher program."



Greg Hampton

"I will be voting because I think it's important for people to be involved in their government."



Jessica Hughes

"I'm not planning to vote because I don't feel like I know enough about the candidates."

Photos by Alexa Webb

Foreign student studies at Floyd College

By Matt Curry
Staff Writer

Adriana Silveira has lived in the United States for almost four years now. Students on the Central Campus may be familiar with the tall, dark-haired Brazilian, sometimes seen carrying her portfolio through the halls.

The 26 year-old art major is originally from Salvador, a small town in the northeast of Brazil. Each morning, she woke up and walked down to the beach, and washed her face in the surf. She worked as a fashion designer in a department store near her home. "I miss those days," she says, carefully sipping a cup of coffee in the art lab.

At the department store, the pay was "not too good." Near the store was a restaurant that sold ice cream she really liked. So she would draw portraits of the waiters' girlfriends. "In exchange, I would have ice cream for the whole week," she says. She used this technique to get into movies, as well.

So how did she end up here? She didn't come straight to the United States. Her story is a little unusual and sounds almost like a fairy tale. "All the people that I would know were Italian," she says. "I had this tendency to kind of attract and to kind of recognize that they were from Italy just by looking at them." Working at a department store, she saw a lot of fashion magazines from and relating to Italy, also. For years, she knew she would eventually visit the country in person.

The major turning point was when Adriana had a dream. In her dream, a white dove flew to her and lit on her hands, and Adriana took this as a sign: "I thought it could be some kind of wedding. And one day I woke up and saw

this hummingbird inside my room, flying, and it landed right on the top of my suitcase. ... I thought that was a sign that I was going to travel." Not long after that, she met her present husband, Guiseppi, in an Italian restaurant on the beach—and three months later they were married and living in Italy.

"I lived in front of the Medi-

"How are you doing?" which obviously didn't entail much conversation. She attended classes, learned English, and got her GED.

She also won the Eagle Award, a state art competition, and met Gov. Zell Miller. "This year I was invited to be the judge of the same competition," she says. Even though one of the competitors was from Brazil, she still had to give her vote to a student from Honduras.

Speaking fluent English and taking classes at Floyd College, Adriana has several friends. Many of the art students are like a family to her, she says. The biggest contrast between Brazil and America, she's discovered, is family life. In her country, people live with their parents longer and aren't obligated to leave so quickly. "It seems that the kids have to leave, and go around and find a job and go to school and pay for their own things, which is cool, but it's different," Adriana says.

Her poodle is named Menina, which means "girl" in Portuguese. Called "Nina" for short, the dog was her best friend

when she first came to the United States. "When I bought her was when I first got here, and didn't know any English, so she was my company," she says. "She's very sweet, she's like a kid." The creature still keeps her company when she paints.

Her main obstacle now is getting a green card, and she is in the process of doing this. If anyone has any information or advice about this, she encourages them to let her know.

Adriana majors in art and plans to transfer to Georgia State eventually. One thing she'll miss most is Lake Paris, which she likes to visit a lot. "I wish I could put it in my purse and take it with me," she says. She plans to continue with her original career as a fashion designer.

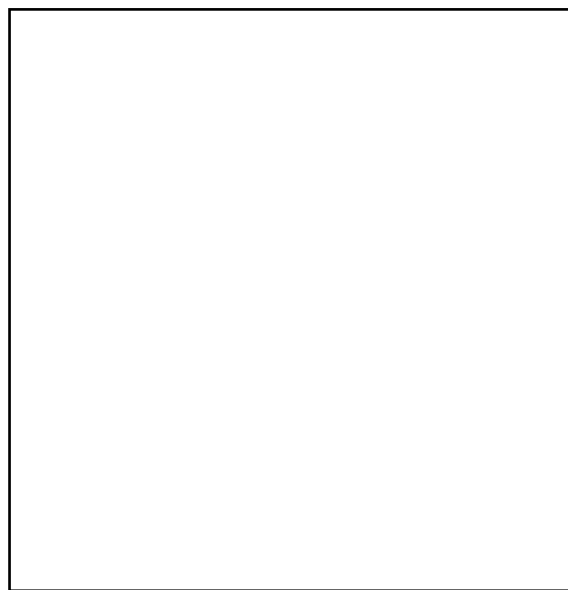


Photo by Melissa Desrosier

Adriana Silveira, originally from Brazil, moved to Italy after marrying her husband, and they eventually moved to Cartersville.

terranean Sea," she says, smiling. The town, she says, was very old, and "the book of Homer mentioned this town [as the one] where a witch turned all the men into pigs." There, she learned Italian and explored the country by train.

After six months in Italy, her husband's company offered him a job in Cartersville, and the couple set out for the United States.

When Adriana arrived, she had no car, and when her husband was at work, she was left to familiarize herself with the new town on a bicycle. "If you don't have a car, you don't have legs," she says. She did this for a few weeks, but says, "People thought I was crazy."

Even though she had a poodle at home to keep her company, she was lonely because she didn't know English. All she knew was

Health Sciences Career Day

Wednesday, February 23, 11 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Located in the Student Center

Area colleges/universities, health science professionals and faculty will be in attendance.

Arts

Book review: *The Informers*

By Matt Proctor
Assistant Editor

The Informers by Bret Easton Ellis is a study of the amoral wasteland of the modern-day world.

Ellis is best known for *Less than Zero* and more recently the controversial *American Psycho* which is soon to be made into a movie. He is somewhat in the same vein as Salinger and Fitzgerald. He makes no apologies. There is no great lesson here. If you are looking for a novel with a moral message, a feel-good ending or justice, there will be no such thing here.

Even though it is a deadly serious novel, it comes off being quite funny and ridiculous because the subjects are just absurdly ridiculous in their thought processes and actions. Are there really people like this?

The novel looks at 13 modern day situations in Los Angeles in the early eighties. Characters casually criss-cross in each other's lives. They buy drugs from the same dealers. They have sex with the same boys and girls.

In this modern world all morals have been exhausted. All the fun is gone. All the drugs have been done. Boredom, impulsiveness, carelessness, longing and desensitization tie together all of the characters in this speeding manic world.

In one situation a 20 some-

thing girl comes from her rich prep school in New Hampshire to visit her careless father in California. She sits here popping valium while he tries to identify with her. She wanders the train station helpless trying to call anyone she knows-with no result.

The novel then jumps to nihilistic rock stars in Japan who wake up every day with a shot of heroin and screw 14 year-old Japanese groupies.

The sinister side of Los Angeles is explored. The book climaxes when three criminals debate what to do with this little boy they kidnapped. One is on heroin all day long. Another is a sadistic murderer. The other one just bounces between the other two, confused and constantly threatened. What happens at the end is horrible.

The focal point of the book is the atmosphere of Los Angeles. People come here with their ideals and slowly get sucked into the tacky culture where the most important things are drugs, having a good tan, sex and movie scripts. A nice summary of *The Informers* is, "You're tan but you don't look happy."

Ellis is a moralizer without morals. He shows the degradation of the human condition. The human soul is desensitized from popular culture and wanders aimless though the wastes of the modern age. This is a good read that makes a serious but humorous comment on our culture.

Book review: *Littlejohn*

By Dana Bridwell
Staff Writer

I must have passed over this novel for three months in favor of novels with better known authors.

To be honest, however, what kept drawing me back was the rich, mellow golden background with the photograph of a man standing beside a car with his back to the camera. Both man and car are circa 1940s.

Once I started reading *Littlejohn* by Howard Owen (Vintage Books 1994), I was hooked.

The central character, 89-year-old Littlejohn McCain, initially is a man of much simplicity who, on the outside seems to have lived such a normal life, but through expert storytelling we see that there is so much more than meets the eye.

Born at the turn of the century in rural North Carolina, Littlejohn descriptively portrays a by-gone era, when family, hard work and religion were the cornerstones of

our society. We are introduced to rich, detailed characters, such as a father who fought in the Civil War and siblings with names like Century and Lafayette.

The reader is given private entry into one man's world that has known unkindness, intolerance, true love and devotion, the horrors of war, an accidental death of a brother and, ultimately, redemption that is the end result of taking a step toward honor in order to put right past wrongs.

Each paragraph and page in this book build on one another. At a seemingly short 240 pages, there is so much detail and depth of story that it leaves the reader longing for more.

This book is reminiscent of sitting in front of a fireplace listening to a grandparent or favorite older relative spin a good yarn.

The only difference is this book delves into the character's feelings and the consequences and aftermath of human errors and actions.

News

Mingling with the ghosts of MLK

By **Matt Proctor**
Assistant Editor

Over the holidays on a strange whim, I visited Memphis, Tenn. Little did I know what was in store for me.

After exploring the whole of downtown Memphis, I began to wander away from the nucleus of the city. Street after street it became more barren. The buildings became derelict. I felt as if I was in some sort of strange, sad ghost town.

Further exploring led me deeper and deeper into this non-existence. I then became shocked to see a solitary person ahead. This person appeared to be dressed in rags. A shopping cart was to the person's side. My first thought was to stop and maybe turn around. Slight apprehension clicked my body. Curiosity got the better of me.

As I began to walk closer I noticed a motel sign. It said the "Lorraine Motel" in blue. It appeared a historical marker was on the wall that surrounded the motel. Then I noticed the Civil Rights Museum. It was fused onto the

motel. Why would this be? I then recalled Martin Luther King was assassinated in Memphis at a motel. It was a strange realization.

As I approached the person, I couldn't figure out if it was a man or a woman. He or she stared fixedly and motionlessly at the cracked apocalyptic sidewalk. A look of dullness filled this person, reminding me of some sort of bizarre monk meditating. I felt as if I was intruding but no eye contact was made. A small black radio was near the cart playing strange inaudible music. The old rusty cart was filled with various knick-knacks and clothes.

Behind the strange person was a dilapidated weathered banner stuck on the cement wall. "Ban the Civil Rights Museum," it read in faded black lettering. Illegible phrases adorned the wall in green and red spray paint. The only one I could read was "Its time for a Black nation." A faded red fist accompanied it. This sounded very militant and a complete contradiction of what King preached. Screw racial unity it screamed. I was disturbed.

I went through the entrance to

see what I anxiously knew was there. Two old white cars were parked in the distance. As I drew close I saw they had 1968 car tags. The year King was assassinated. As I stopped in front of the cars, I looked up. My eyes met a tacky color of aqua green and the number 306 on a door. A dilapidated wreath was strapped to the metal railing in front of the door as a memorial to the slain Civil Rights leader. This is where King was shot. It was a very solemn sight. I could imagine the sounds of gunshots and the ensuing confusion. A deep feeling of sadness hung in the quiet, still air.

Old brick buildings rose to the stony gray sky. They looked desperate and were only dead husks compared to their glory days when this part of town was alive. I wondered from which one the fatal shots were fired. It felt surreal.

Here I was in front of history. A symbol of dreams and human violence was before my soul. Ghosts still wander through the living here.

Reprinted from February online Six Mile Post.

Reading of Works by Black Writers held on Central Campus and Haralson Campus

By **Timberly Davis**
Staff Writer

Black Awareness Society members joined the Minority Achievement Program and the Office of Student Life to present Floyd College's second annual Reading of Works by Black Writers.

The audience gathered in the student center on the Central Campus listening intently as students and teachers read selections ranging from poetry to non-fiction. Some individu-

als presented personal works while others preferred to read pieces by their favorite writers.

Langston Hughes, York David Garrett, Chester Himes and Alice Walker were among some of the authors whose works were read.

A similar reading was held on the Haralson Campus.

"It is important to have events like Minority Staff and Student Luncheons and Public Readings", says BAS president Rodney Turner. "These events encourage fellowship and allow students and staff to get to know one another better."

Black History Month originated with Negro History Week in 1926. February was selected to honor two great individuals who believed in the equality of all—Abraham Lincoln and Fredrick Douglass— who were born in February.

Contributed by Daryl Whitton
Haralson Campus

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Features

Floyd College professor shares his experiences with autism

By Laura Gosnold
Editor

Most students, faculty and staff know Dr. Ken Weatherman as a professor of physical education, not as the father of an autistic child.

Weatherman and his wife, Jenny, are parents to daughter, Kendall, 11, and Andrew, five. They noticed at an early age that Andrew didn't show the same behavior that the average toddler should. At three and a half, he was diagnosed with autism.

Many people envision autistic individuals as those who bang their heads repetitively against the wall or act with extreme aggression. Although this is true for some with severe autism, Andrew does not fall into that category. "A lot of people will see Andrew and not know that he's autistic," said Weatherman.

In fact, Andrew attends preschool with nine other typical children at Northside School, a public facility in Cedartown. He is in an inclusive environment with a regular school teacher and is pulled out only to attend speech and music therapy. "Music is often used to work with children with disabilities, and many autistics respond to the sound," Weatherman said.

The U.S. Government states that all children should receive a free, appropriate education, but as

with any child with a disability, it is difficult and costly to educate an autistic child in an appropriate manner. According to Weatherman, most insurance companies will not cover the outrageous expenses that come with autism.

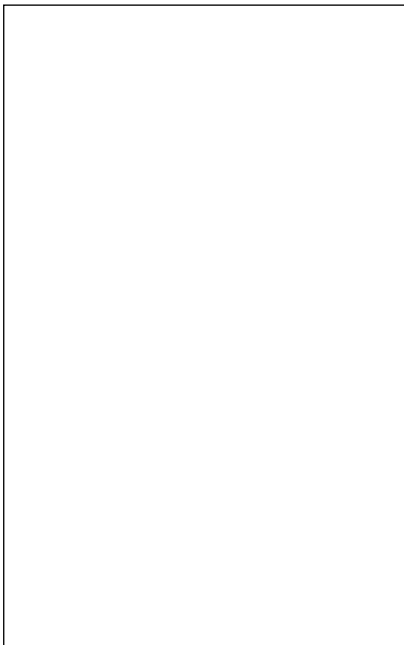


Photo by Heather Koon

Ken Weatherman and his son Andrew walk the track at Barron Stadium in Rome.

In addition to his school curriculum, Andrew receives occupational and speech therapy two days a week in a community based program. With a lot of work from

the school, Weatherman and his wife, the therapy has been beneficial, but just as with any growing and learning child, it is hard to tell just how beneficial the therapy is at this point.

Weatherman emphasizes the importance of placing a child with autism with other typical children.

Autistics take on the characteristics of others, so if they are in a classroom full of other children with autism, there would be no improvement.

Many schools suggest that the autistic children should be placed in special education classes, but, again, they would only take on the characteristics of the environment that surrounds them.

Although Andrew has autism, his parents treat him no differently than they would if he didn't have it. He goes to places like the grocery store with his parents and to the children's sermon at church with his father. "There will be a time where he knows he is different," stated Weatherman.

However, he feels it is important to treat Andrew just like any other child.

Andrew is considered to have mild to moderate autism. He is very talkative and not aggressive

ity to read at an early age. While this can be a good diagnosis, often the child can read very well but not understand the meaning of the words. Because Andrew is autistic, there is a chance that he will lose his education skills at a higher grade level. The Weathermans are hopeful that he will not.

According to Weatherman, the rate of people with autism is on the rise, and the ratio of males to females with the diagnosis is 4:1. No one really knows the cause of autism, but some speculate that it is genetic. It has also been speculated that the immunizations a child receives, such as an MMR (measles, mumps and rubella) shot, could contribute to the matter.

Because autism is so mysterious and misunderstood, many parents pretend nothing is wrong. "Denial is a problem with parents of autistic children. Look for signs. Early intervention is important," stated Weatherman.

He suggests that if a child has slow language development, plays with toys in an unusual manner (such as perfectly lining up toys), has obsessive compulsive tendencies or slow social development, then these are red flags that this child might have autism, and parents should insist that the pediatrician check the child out further.



Photo by Heather Koon

Andrew (left) and his father spend a great deal of time together working on Andrew's therapy.

or self-injuring. Most people with autism have a hard time communicating with others, and although Andrew is socially behind other children his age, he is educationally advanced.

At the age of five, his math skills are on the second and third grade levels. Aside from autism, Andrew has also been diagnosed with hyperlexia, the unusual abil-

What is autism, and how does it generally manifest itself?

By Gary Popham
Staff Writer

Autism is a developmental disorder, not a disease, according to the Fact Sheet of the Center for the Study of Autism, located at www.autism.com/.

It is an equal opportunity disorder affecting about one to 10 people out of every 10,000. No race or social class is immune. More males than females suffer from this disorder.

There is no cure for autism, but with care and management, autistic people can experience a fairly normal life span.

Autism symptoms usually appear in the first three years of life and continue throughout life. Impaired social interactions, poor verbal and non-verbal communications, lack of imagination and odd or limited activities and interests are symptoms of classical autism.

Autism occurs in varying degrees of severity. A mild case may imitate personality disorders and some learning disabilities. More severe cases will exhibit strange behaviors.

An infant with autism may become rigid, arch his back or scream with rage when picked up by a parent. A child with the disorder may not recognize his own name. He may avoid contact with other people. He may not recognize tone of voice or facial expressions.

Some children engage in repetitive behaviors like rocking or hair twirling. Self-injury such as biting or head banging is another symptom of autism. Lack of speech or delayed speech may signal autism. Those who do have language skills may have speech oddities. They may echo the phrases of other people. Others may repeat conversations they hear days earlier. Some may have unusual responses to sounds, touch and other sensory stimulations. Many have reduced sensitivity to pain.

Fifty percent of autistic people have an IQ below 50. Twenty percent have an IQ between 50 and 70. Thirty percent score above 70 on IQ tests. A score below 70 defines a person as mentally retarded. A small percent are savants. They have remarkable skills in math, music or art. How-

ever, it is difficult to test IQs of autistic people because of problems with language and behavior. Some doctors describe autistics as "emotionally disturbed."

The Center for the Study of Autism says there is no single cause of autism. Genetics can play a part. Environmental factors such as viruses and chemicals may contribute to autism.

One study suggests that abnormalities in several regions of the brain may cause autism. This research found that neurons are smaller than normal. These stunted nerve fibers may interfere with nerve signaling. This suggests that autism results from abnormal fetal brain development.

Another study suggests that people with autism have abnormalities of serotonin or other signaling molecules in the brain. One study looks to genetics as the cause of autism.

Research shows that families with one autistic child have a 5% risk of having another child with the disorder. This is greater than the risk of the general population.

In some cases of autism, par-

ents or other relatives have some behavior links to autism, but these people are able to function normally in society. Studies also show that affective, or emotional, disorders occur more frequently than average in families of autistic persons.

There is no cure for autism. However, with intervention and treatment, symptoms may improve over time. Some autistic people eventually lead normal or near normal lives as they age.

Unfortunately, not everyone improves. Failure to improve is usually associated with epilepsy or other seizure-like problems. Adolescence and its well-known trials and tribulations, even in "normal children," may worsen behavioral problems in some autistic children. Parents need to be able to adjust treatment for their child's changing needs.

Treatment for autism most often includes therapies and intervention. These are designed to treat specific symptoms in each individual child. Education/behavioral and medical intervention are the best-studied therapies.

Most education/behavioral in-

terventions are highly structured and skill-oriented training for individuals. These interventions should be started as early as possible. Children learn more easily and quickly than older people. Early intervention also has a good chance of favorably influencing brain development.

Most psychotropic drugs work to decrease self-injurious behavior and other symptoms of autism. Most of the drugs affect serotonin levels or other signaling chemicals in the brain. Drug treatment should be combined with other approaches.

For more information about autism contact the National Institute of Mental Health, 5600 Fishers Lane, Room 7C-02, Rockville, Maryland 20857, (301) 443-4513; the Autism Society of America, 7910 Woodmont Ave., Suite #650, Bethesda, Maryland 20814, (301) 657-0881; the National Autism Hotline, c/o Autism Services Center, P.O. Box 507, 605 Ninth Street, Huntington, West Virginia 25720-0507, (304) 525-8014; or for on-line information contact the Center for the Study of Autism at <http://www.autism.com/>.

News/ Features

Student committee blocks proposed HOPE cuts

By Matt Bowers
Staff Writer

After about a week of catching extreme heat for his proposed HOPE budget cuts, Governor Roy Barnes has withdrawn his proposal.

In his plan, Barnes had intended for the HOPE grant to exclusively pay for the students health, activity, and transportation fees, and cease paying for other fees such as athletic and rec-

reation fees. Barnes claimed that his reasoning behind this was that such mandatory fees have increased exponentially since the HOPE grant began paying for them. He was quoted by the *Atlanta Journal and Constitution*, AJC, as saying that this was a way for the schools to make "easy money."

The SACS, Student Advisory Committee to the Board of Regents, claimed that the cutting of

these fees would result in students having to pay up to about \$200 more per year.

The SACS Committee was responsible for a great deal of the criticism that Barnes received that subsequently caused him to withdraw his proposal. This fact may cause many schools and universities to think twice about the power of its students.

John Fuchko, a senior at Kennesaw University and president of the SACS Committee,

was quoted by the AJC as saying, "Institutions aren't always aware of what students are thinking. This will force the institutions to take students' concerns more seriously."

Barnes stated that his move to make these cuts was simply a way to draw attention to the fact that the drastic increase in mandatory fees at Georgia universities was unjustified.

The Board of Regents has agreed to keep close tabs on fee

increases at universities in the future.

The Board passed new rules at its Feb. 8 meeting that will establish a Fees Review Board at every University System college that will be made up of 50 percent students.

These boards will give students more input into the fees which they are charged, which is something that the SACS Committee has been fighting for since last year.

Blindness no obstacle for Kelley and White, Psi Beta inductees

By Gary Popham
Staff Writer

Patrice D. Kelley and Lela P. White were inducted into Psi Beta during a ceremony on Sunday, Feb. 6. Psi Beta is the National Honor Society in Psychology for Community and Junior Colleges.

There is nothing unusual or especially noteworthy about being inducted into a college's chapter of an honor society. However, these two women need to be honored and recognized... Kelley and White are blind.

Both women expressed excitement and pride at being asked to join Psi Beta. White said she was surprised at being invited to join the society. She was not expecting such an honor, although she has always been a good student.

White lost the sight in her right eye as the result of several

mini-strokes in 1991. Her vision has continued to deteriorate. Today she requires someone to lead her around as she goes about her daily activities.

White uses a personal reader and note taker at all times to help her complete class assignments and take tests.

White studied statistics and did very well in the course. She enjoys math, and at one time she considered majoring in accounting. She changed her mind and decided on psychology because she said it was too hard to keep all those numbers in her head.

Kelley was born with limited vision. She attended public schools and was able to read large print books. About three years ago she became totally blind.

Today she uses a tape recorder

to take notes of her classroom lectures. When taking a test, she requires a personal reader to read the questions and mark or write her responses. Currently, Kelley is studying Spanish and says she loves it.

Both women plan to continue their education in psychology.

Kelley wants to study at Berry or West Georgia. She would like to work toward a master's degree in Rehabilitation Services.

White wants to attend Kennesaw to complete her education.

Dr. Alberta Johnson, faculty adviser for Psi Beta, said, "I think both Patrice and Lela serve as powerful role models to all students in general, but especially students with disabilities. It is a privilege to have them as members of Psi Beta."

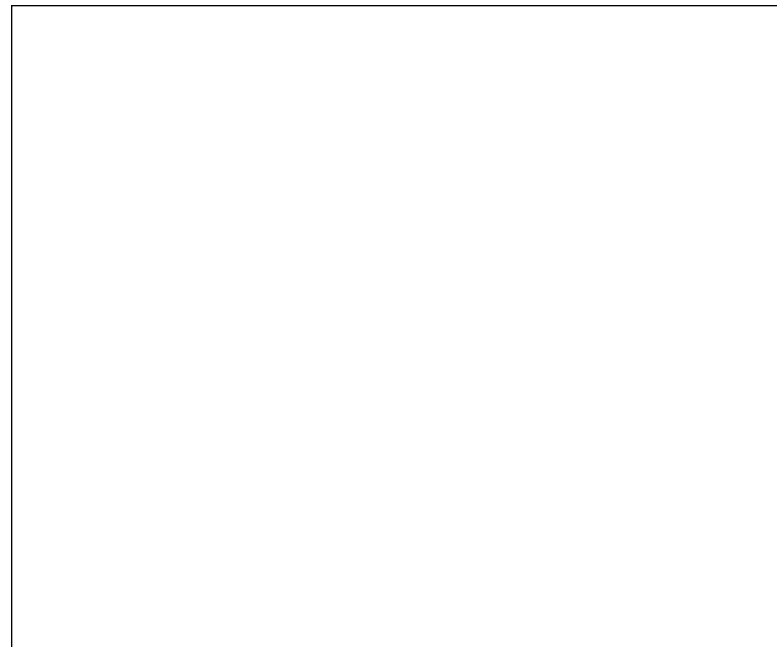


Photo by Gary Popham

Patrice Kelley (left) and Lela White were inducted into Psi Beta on Feb. 6.

Registering to vote is no trouble at all

(continued from page 1)

Registering at the Election Office takes the least amount of time. Web registration is the most convenient, and the application is the least time consuming. A copy of the online application that was filled out will be mailed to the prospective voter for any corrections and for a signature. Once the form is corrected and returned, the official card is mailed to the voter and the process is complete. Picking up an application does not in-

volve waiting in line but does require time to fill out the form with delayed results. The main thing to remember is do not procrastinate!

After receiving your voter registration card, the name of the precinct or the place to vote can be found on the back of the card. The Election Office can always be contacted about any other questions.

According to an Election Office employee, to meet the deadline to

become an official voter before an election, registration must be complete one month prior to the election. With online registration the application must be signed, corrected and returned. With the other methods, one should also allow plenty of time for processing.

Voting an absentee ballot can be a complicated process. According to the spokesperson from the Election Office, someone who

wants to vote by absentee ballot must complete an application. After the application is approved, the ballot can be completed immediately or it can be mailed to the voter. If it is mailed it must be returned before 7 p.m. on Election Day. A common reason for voting absentee ballot would be that the voter expects to be out of town on Election Day.

Those interested in registering online may do so at

www.newvoter.com/rtv001/entry.asp or, students who live in Georgia may register through the Floyd College Student Government Office in the Office of Student Life.

The registration deadline for the Georgia presidential preference primary has already come and gone, but the deadline for the general primary, July 18, is still months away. The National election will be Nov. 7.

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News

Financial assistance available to students

By Angela Gentry
Staff Writer

Contrary to popular belief, HOPE is not the only financial assistance that Floyd College students have available to them. There are also Non-Traditional Student scholarships, Floyd College Foundation scholarships, scholarships for study abroad programs, Bartow County Scholarships and many more.

In order to get HOPE (Helping Outstanding Pupils Educationally) the student must have graduated in or after 1993, be a legal resident of Georgia, and have an average of 3.0 on a 4.0 grading scale.

The Georgia Lottery pays for HOPE, so every time someone buys a lottery ticket, he or she is helping to pay for students' tuition, books and some other mandatory fees.

According to William Skinner, financial aid counselor, a non-traditional student is someone who is 25 years of age or older. These people may receive scholarships

through the Financial Assistance Committee. The Financial Aid Office has applications for these scholarships.

The Floyd College Foundation Scholarship is given to 10 to 12 incoming freshmen based on high school grades and test scores.

There are also several scholarships for people who are in selected minorities and/or majors. Students should check with their major division or with the Financial Aid Office.

The Bartow County Service Scholarship is open to residents of Bartow County. The recipient could be a current student in good standing or someone who is about to start at Floyd College. Applicants must fill out the Federal Financial Aid Form and a Floyd College Financial Aid Form by the end of February and be willing to perform 80 hours of community service in the Bartow area. To find out more about this scholarship, contact Amy Mitchell in the Financial Aid/Admissions Office at the Central Campus at (706) 295-6311.

In order to apply for any of these scholarships, a FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) must be completed and sent off by April 1 for the fall semester. This date may vary on some of the scholarships.

Taxes must have been filed in order to complete this form. The FAFSA and more information about any of these scholarships can be found at Floyd College's Financial Aid Office in the Administration Building.

February is Financial Aid month. Floyd College is offering free Financial Aid Workshops on Feb. 23, 24 and 28. More information is available in the Financial Aid office.

Students of Floyd College have the opportunity to gain college credit while visiting other countries like England or Australia in the study abroad program. Dr. James Cook in the social and cultural studies division of Floyd College, (706) 295-6300, can provide more information on the study abroad program and the financial aid for it.

MayMester registration on the horizon for students

Marsha Welch, Registrar
Guest Writer

Floyd College is offering classes during MayMester Term, May 11-May 30.

Currently enrolled students may register for classes during early registration for summer 2000 or on Registration Day, May 10, 8 a.m. until 5:30 p.m.

MayMester is considered a part of the summer term for financial aid purposes.

Technology fees for laptops are changing for summer term!

If you plan to enroll in only one short session of classes, you will only be charged \$150. For example, if you take a MayMester class but no other classes during the summer, your charge will be \$150.

However, if you enroll in any combination of sessions or in full session classes, you will be charged the \$300 fee.

Web registration, open to all students, is scheduled to begin March 1 and continue until May 10.

The SCORE web informa-

tion system will have class offerings listed prior to the publication of the Spring Schedule.

Only those students with academic holds or financial obligations are required to come to the

Advisement Center or their respective Campus Center in Acworth, Cartersville and Waco for registration assistance. An example of an academic hold is Regents' Testing Program requirements. All other students should use the web reg-

Photo by Joey Davidson

Marsha Welch, registrar, encourages students who plan to enroll during MayMester to be prepared for the upcoming registration.

istration system.

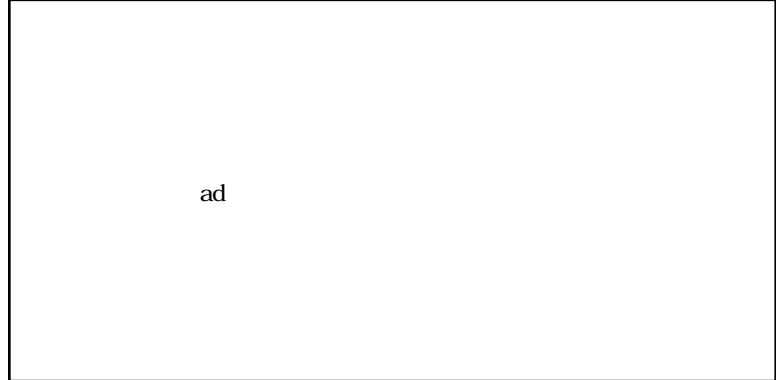
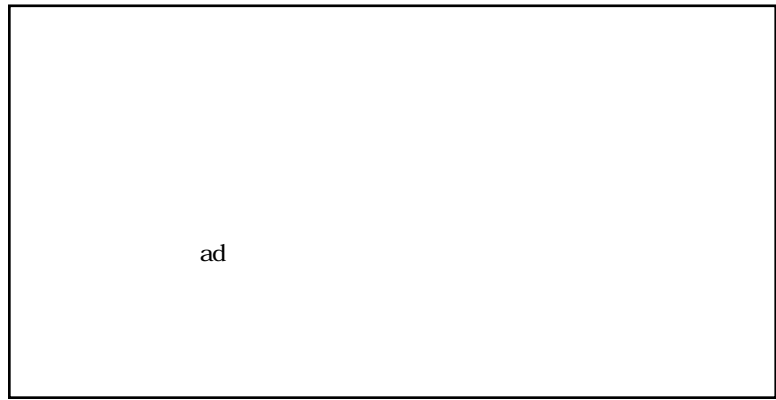
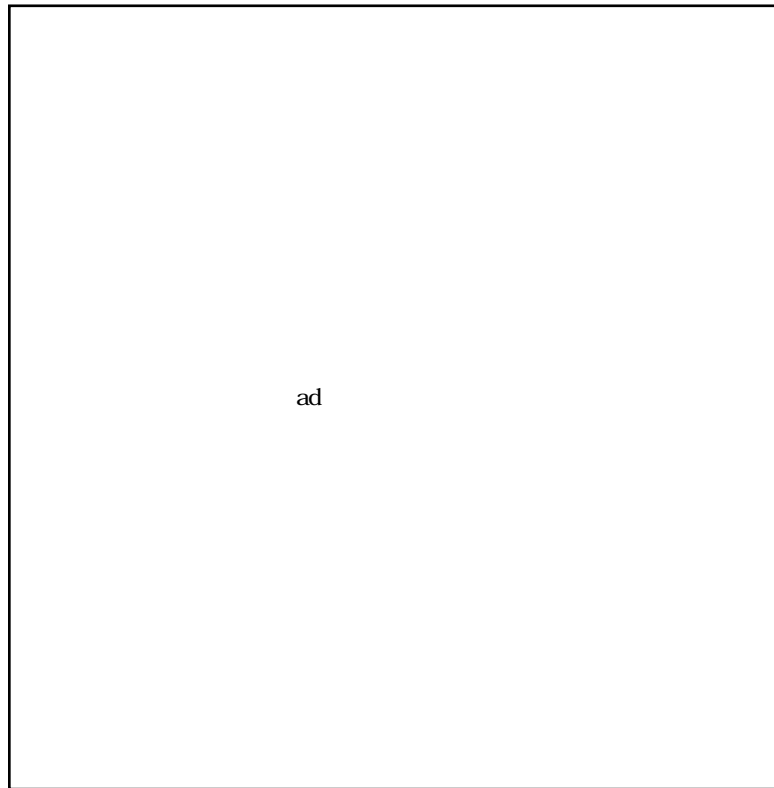
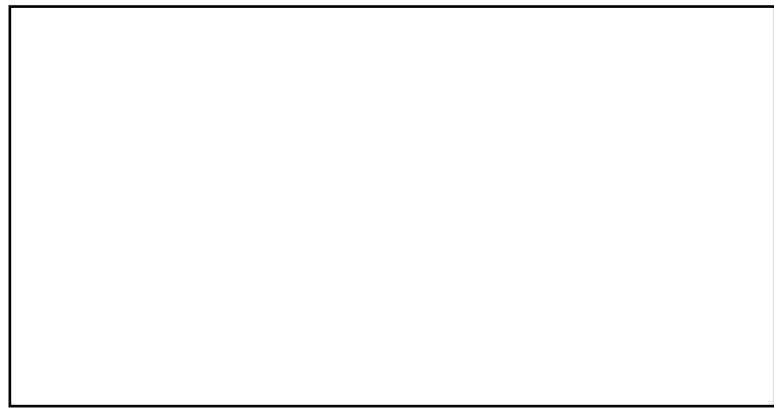
Students are encouraged to consult their academic adviser for assistance prior to registration.

For additional information regarding registration, visit the Advisement Center, Room W-116 on Rome's Central campus, email ewalker@mail.fc.peachnet.edu or call (706) 802-5103.

Please contact the Financial Aid Office at (706) 295-6311 before registration if you have questions about your aid for summer.

Questions for the Admissions Office may be sent to registrar@mail.fc.peachnet.edu. We answer inquiries within 24 working hours.

Reminder
Withdrawal
deadline /
Midterm is
March 2



Six-Mile Post

Be sure to check out the next issue of the Six-Mile Post, coming March 28.

News

FC's NYSP program wins Top Ten Award

By James Fudge
Staff Writer

Floyd College's National Youth Sports Program (NYSP) became nationally recognized by winning the Top Ten Award last year in Washington, D.C.

The award, issued by the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA), was presented to 10 schools of the 100 that participate in the program.

The NYSP is a six-week activity program that targets disadvantaged boys and girls, ages 10 through 16.

The children are provided transportation to and from camp.

Once the kids arrive, a staff of 30 works hard to provide a variety of daily activities including basketball, soccer, volleyball, canoeing and swimming.

There is also a mandatory drug-education enrichment class that each child attends twice a week.

Along with the activities, the children receive two meals a day, breakfast and lunch.

A highlight of last year's program was the 30 laptop computers that the school donated for use

during the six weeks of camp.

For these kids, NYSP is a healthy and safe break from everyday life in which they make

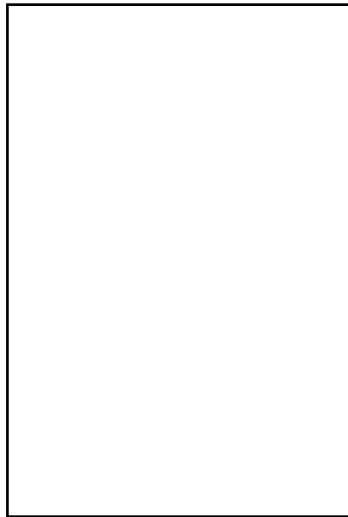


Photo by Heather Koon

David Mathis, HPER lab coordinator, organizes the annual NYSP camp at Floyd College.

friends, have fun and participate in sports. Dr. Tom Berry, professor of business administration, states, "In 30 years, if I can pinpoint one

program that gives me more pride than any other program in its contribution to the community, it would be NYSP.

There are two reasons: 1) The number of years it's been in existence; 2) The number of young people's lives the program has turned around."

David Mathis, Floyd College's NYSP coordinator, said, "NYSP is one of the more important aspects Floyd College offers that gives back to the community. On behalf of the kids, I would like to thank the whole college for the use of the Rome facility and the patience and understanding that come from the students."

This year, NYSP begins June 12 and runs through July 21.

Floyd College students are allowed to volunteer as camp counselors. Increased participation would further the accomplishments of the program and its ability to reach out to children.

If you are interested in finding out more about the program or how to volunteer, you may contact Mathis or Bridget Stewart at (706) 802-5000, ext.6353 or email Mathis at the following address, dmathis@mail.fc.peachnet.edu.

Winter weather driving tips

By Lori Pulliam
Staff Writer

Winter weather is here! Driving in the snow and ice can be a little tricky. Here are a few tips to keep safe if you have to get out in the wintry conditions.

One thing to remember is that it takes three to nine times the distance to stop a car when the roads are wet from rain, ice or slush. So, don't follow too closely. Put some distance between you and the car in front of you. When trying to stop on a wet surface, pump the brakes rather than holding them down.

When driving in the ice and snow, you do not want to use brakes. The brakes can lock up the wheels and send the car sliding and skidding. When stopping, just remove your foot from the gas and gently turn the wheel in the direction you want your front wheels to go.

The best advice is to just stay off of the roads in the ice and snow.

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Sports

Full slate of intramural activity on tap for this Spring Semester

Skye Kennedy
Staff Writer

Ah, it seems that soon these past freezing months will be giving way to the warmer temperatures and sunnier days of spring.

The competitive nature of the restless college student is soon to be awakened. And what better way to satiate the urges of the beast than to play an intramural sport?

Why not head on out to the softball field and vent your frustrations with a ball and bat? While you're at it, you might as well spit in the face of an umpire or two and try your best to insult every sub-culture you can think of. Oh, wait...that's baseball.

All distasteful attempts at

cracking on John Rocker and Major League Baseball aside, intramurals are a good way to meet new people and get active after the long winter hibernation.

While most Floyd College Spring intramural sign-ups are well underway, the opportunity to participate in almost every activity is still open to all students.

Here are just a few examples of events that either have or will be beginning this semester.

Basketball

Currently, five-on-five basketball has started. Play began on Jan. 31 and will continue until April 12, but students who wish

to get involved can contact Bridgette Stewart, HPER teaching assistant, in the Office of Physical Education at (706) 295-6353.

Tae-bo

Another popular activity for the aerobically inclined is Tae-bo, which began on Jan. 24.

Basic sessions for those just learning are held on Mondays and Wednesdays, while the more upwardly motivated can try the advanced sessions on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

All of the aforementioned classes will be held at 4:15 p.m. in the gym and will continue until April 20.

Softball

For the truly competitive in nature, softball sign-ups will be held Feb. 14 through March 3. Play will begin on Tuesday, March 7, and continue through April 18. Competition will be held on Tuesdays only at 1:30 p.m. on the softball field. The softball teams will be coed and will require a minimum of two women on the field at all times.

Tennis

A tennis tournament featuring brackets for both men and women with skill levels ranging from beginners to advanced will be held April 3 through May 5. Sign-ups

will be March 1 through 24.

Golf

Finally, a golf scramble will be held April 14 at the BEAA golf course and is open to all students, faculty and staff.

Sign-ups will be held on March 1 in the HPER office. If you have any questions, see Dr. Ken Weatherman in the Office of Physical Education for more information.

If you have any further questions about intramural sports in general, contact David Mathis in the Office of Physical Education.

Anyone interested is urged to take advantage of these opportunities, and keep in mind that intramural expenses are covered by the student activity fee.

Sports Commentary

Christopher Crocker
Staff Writer

These are slow days in the world of sports, so the sports news is kind of slow too

It's sometimes easy to understand what newscasters call a "slow news day".

It's days like these that radio hosts around the country talk about things like the speed limit or leash laws. When sports news revolves around athletes NOT involved in sports, something's up.

The Ravens football player, who will remain nameless to protect the innocent, being involved

in an "incident" at The Cobalt Lounge is real news.

It does, however, lead to an interesting question. The game that he was going to play the week after the "incident" at The Cobalt Lounge, that Pro Bowl thing, what exactly is the point of it? Is there one? Does anyone ever go there?

The rules change in this Pro Bowl, this final game of the NFL season, to protect the players. The

regular season is open season and because of the nature of the game, many players suffer injury.

Does this mean, since the rules are changed, that the Pro Bowl isn't a real game?

No disrespect is meant to any of the participating players in the game. They definitely earned it. Today on the radio, however, there was a suggestion made that maybe the Pro Bowl should be a collective highlights show for all of the players that made it.

Would that be more popular than an actual game? Send all responses to Neilson.

Reach to your left, press the clutch, and shift to second gear. Chipper Jones, a player in an entirely different sport, was recognized in a strange place. Anyone remember New York? That is the location that began the "undoing of Rocker" and a sore spot for those faithful that traveled there for the playoff games during the Braves season.

It is also the city that Chipper accepted the "he was a good player, but a bad husband" award. The attendees kindly reminded the baseball player that his real name was Larry.

Let's see, what else? Oh, yeah, the Hawks lost recently, didn't they? Did they play? That answers that question. Dribble the ball, dribble the ball, pass and shoot, pass and shoot, NO, NO, NO, you missed again come and sit down. Did you hear about the Ravens player in jail for the "incident" at The Cobalt Lounge?

The speed limits around the area are really sorry, aren't they? What about those leash laws? I think there should be mandatory real grass regulations inside all sporting arenas. That would be really cool. Go Thrashers! Okay.

